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UNCLAS PRAGUE 000519

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR/NCE AND EB/TRA/OTP  
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FOR TSA

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: CZECH REPUBLIC WILL OBSERVE BAN ON LIGHTERS

REF: (A) STATE 66181, (B) STATE 41383,

1. Post delivered the demarche on DHS banning lighters on flights to, from and within the U.S. to Josef Turecky, Director General, Civil Aviation Department, Ministry of Transportation of the Czech Republic, on March 10, 2005. Based on the information in the demarche, the Czech authorities are banning lighters aboard U.S.-bound flights as of April 14, 2005.

2. The Czech Republic expects the EU to raise this issue with the United States in diplomatic channels. Nevertheless, the Czechs will observe the ban unless U.S.-EU discussions result in a change.

HILLAS